

R E V I E W.

Saturday, December 6. 1712.

N my last I took some notice of a very unhappy Quarrel, which has first risen from small Matters between two Noblemen, has been prosecuted with the utmost Animosity, even to Blood, and ended in the Destruction of both.

As I said in my last, I think nothing is so lively representation of the present Feuds of Parties in Nation, and at this Time; like this, it begun small Things; like this, it is carried on with the most Fury and Animosity, and like this, if it goes it will end in the Destruction of both.

There is an Observation however, that falls in my way as I go, which I cannot omit, tho' it be a Digression: I make no doubt, but if any considering headed Friend, had been made acquainted with the Breach between those two Honourable Persons, with their Design or Resolution to prosecute it, *à propos d'Épée*, to the last drop, and if such Friend interpos'd his good Offices between them, and the use of proper Applications for the purpose, no doubt, I say, they would both have been brought to Reason, and the Mischief to, and Ruin of both, might have been prevented; but no one was found to this good Office for two provok'd Friends; and the consequence we all see; if any one had done it, he might, perhaps, have sav'd the Lives of two noble, valuable Persons; but if you ask me what he should have gain'd by it, I must own, I think, he should have gain'd little more, than the Satisfaction of the Peacemaker, unless, perhaps, the Contempt and ill will both these he had serv'd.

And who now shall do this good Office for two provok'd Parties; and for a Nation? And what shall he do by it, if he attempts it? Does he not run between two Swords Points of the two? And is he not in Danger of being Wounded by both? No doubt but he is, and no doubt but this shall be my Lot in my present attempt; but be that as it will, as I have already a Martyr to Moderation, and am Sacrificed between the Thieves of the Nation's Peace, I am in the hot Men on both sides, I am the less concern'd at what I am to expect from the World, in following that Principle which can only save you All; tho' as my Lord *H—m* said, I may be, as it

were, putting in my Thumb to stop the Tide at Gravesend, when I move you to consider the State of the Nation, and what you are doing towards your own Ruin, *that is to say, doing something which will be very Fruitless*; yet for the sake of the few which it may prevail upon, and at least to leave the Contentious World without excuse, if they will not hearken, I take this Work in Hand.

The Feuds of the Nation, I say, are very much like the Quarrel between the two Lords aforesaid; the Foundation of the Quarrel, how Ridiculous! viz. Who shall or shall not Administer Matters of State under the Queen? This simply consider'd, is a Trifling occasion, for it is the Queen who Reigns, not the Ministry; but while we seemingly carry on the Quarrel about Ministry, the Management by which that Ministry are distinguish'd, comes to be Concern'd; and here all the Parties come into the Strife, and so you bring it up to a National Quarrel. With what Heat, with what Animosity, the Quarrel is now carried on, all the Nation are Witnesses, and I fear all the Nation will feel, as well as see it. Where it will end, if this Quarrel be not taken up, any Man may tell you, without the Help of the Spirit of Prophecy: It will certainly end as the Duel has done between Duke *H—n* and my Lord *M—n*, viz. In common Destruction; those Gentlemen quarrell'd and engaged, fought and fell upon one another with implacable Fury, and Death triumphs over them both; all their Fury is swallow'd up, and all their Fire quench'd in mutual Destruction; and thus 'tis plain it must inevitably be, in the publick Affairs of the Nation, unless the Parties can be persuaded to come to some Temper one with another, unless some Healing Principles are infus'd, and unless some kind hand may be found, to throw Water upon this Flame.

To what can our present Temper lead us? Where will it Issue? What does it tend to?

One High Party runs on to threaten the Ruin of the Constitution, and reverse or contravene the Succession, and flatter themselves, that the great Men are in their Design, and carry on that Interest, and where must this end but in Destruction? Another High Party please themselves with the vain Notions of

of Dethroning the Ministry, and Restoring the Things that have been, in the Room of the Things that are, and as Things are stated, they give up their Friends, and cut off those who trusted them, to bring this to pass; and whither does this tend, but to Destruction?

For my part, I know you all too well, to go about to persuade you to any Peaceable Inclinations from Arguments, which relate to your Party-Quarrels; to expose the Folly of your Breaches, to tell the World how Ridiculously you quarrel, how Imp'acably you carry on these Quarrels, what Methods you take to exasperate one another: If I should tell what Lyes, what Shams, what abominable Stories are raised, nay, Printed every Day, by either Side, upon the other, for both are alike Guilty; how you strive to expose one another, not as Men, but even as Christians; how you Treat one another with Scandal, Slander, Forgery, and all manner of abhor'd Ribaldry; how the best Quality on both Sides are used with the utmost Scurrility, and the vilest Dirt thrown in the Face of the greatest Merit; what shall I do in this, but run between the Swords Points of the Parties, and be ground to death between the Millstones of your Passions? Tho' this shall not restrain me from telling you at large the Truth, in all these Cases, as occasion offers.

But for the present, I only apply myself to you, on another Account, to entreat you all to consider a little, *not so much* what you are really doing, *but* what you intend to do; what the End will be, and if you can think a little, or if you can bear to talk to yourselves a little, in the Case, that you would only ask yourselves these Questions, Whither are we a going? To what does all this point? Where will it issue? How long can Things go on thus? And what will it bring us all to at last?

If *Jacobitism*, if Confusion, if Blood and Destruction, are the natural Consequences of these Things, let both Sides consider whether they have not something to do, towards bringing themselves to some other Terms with one another, than now they are in; I have not Time to enlarge on Particulars, but would fain ask a few Things of some People. Is this the Way to keep out the Pretender? Is this the Way to

keep out Popery? Is this the Way to preserve Peace, to restore Trade, establish Credit, encrease good Commerce? Will the People making Government unease, or the Government keeping the People unease, bring us to a Condition of Safety, the present Temper of the People on either Side, a Temper as they can continue in? Is this the Way we are to live in together, or is the End of all these Things Ruinous and Destructive to the Nation?

If you ask me what I would have, my Reply is, do not think you are ripe for an Answer to that Question, I may speak to it hereafter; but the present Case is only to recommend to you to consider, certainly the present Case is not fit to be rested, and to put you all upon Enquiring, what you propose to yourselves? And what it is you intend to do? What you drive at? and where you think these Things will end? Assuring you, that I see nothing in it, but as in the Case of the late Duel, Destruction to both Sides.

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